

## Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 L-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05

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R 072040Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6474

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

DEA HQS WASHDC

DEA NEW YORK REGIONAL OFFICE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0141

CARACAS PLEASE PASS DEA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, CI

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: RETURN TO CHILE OF CONVICTED TRAFFICKERS

REF: 75 SANTIAGO 8636

1. SUMMARY: UNDERSECY INTERIOR ENRIQUE MONTERO TOLD MISSION OFFICER JAN 3 THAT HE WAS OUTRAGED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATION TO NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS EXPELLED FROM CHILE INTO USG CUSTODY. MONTERO SAID THAT USG HAD COMMITTED "BREACH OF FAITH" IN RELEASING OFFENDERS SO QUICKLY, AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH USG ON NARCOTICS MATTERS. AS MONTERO IS KEY FIGURE IN OC NARCOTICS POLICY MATTERS, HIS FAILURE TO COOPERATE COULD MARK SEVERE SETBACK FOR US NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN CHILE. END SUMMARY.

2. MONTERO CALLED MISSION OFFICER TO MEET WITH HIM ON QUESTION OF USG EFFORTS TO SECURE RETURN OF THREE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS TO CHILE UPON COMPLETION OF SENTENCES IN U.S. WHILE MONTERO DID NOT NAME THE THREE, HE WAS CLEARLY REFERRING TO SERGIO LAZO (REFTEL), EDUARDO FRITIS COLON (ACTUALLY ACQUITTED), AND JUAN CARLOS CANONICO. MONTERO WAS ENRAGED, AND STATED THAT HE HAD LEARNED THAT THESE DRUG TRAFFICKERS HAVE  
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PLACED "CONTRACT" TO HAVE HIM, MONTERO, KILLED FOR HIS PART IN

ARRANGING THEIR EXPULSION FROM CHILE AND FOR HIS KEY ROLE IN PREVENTING THEIR RETURN. HE CONSIDERS HIS FAMILY IN DANGER AS WELL.

3. MONTERO SAID THAT AT TIME OF EXPULSIONS OF ABOUT 20 TRAFFICKERS IN LATE 1973 AND EARLY 1974, IT WAS HIS CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT TRAFFICKERS WOULD BE JAILED IN US FOR "20 YEARS," AND THUS WOULD POSE NO FUTURE PROBLEM OR THREAT TO CHILE. IF GOC HAD HAD ANY IDEA TRAFFICKERS WOULD BE RELEASED AND THEIR RETURN PROPOSED IN LESS THAN TWO YEARS, HE SAID, IT WOULD HAVE HANDLED SITUATION ITSELF RATHER THAN RESPOND TO US REQUESTS FOR EXPULSION.

4. MONTERO SAID HE WILL PREVENT RETURN OF ANY OF TRAFFICKERS TO CHILE, BUT UNDERSTANDS THAT THEY PLAN TO MOVE INTO PARAGUAY AND INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN TRAFFIC FROM THAT POINT.

5. MONTERO IS PLANNING PRIVATE VISIT TO US, ARRIVING JAN 15, AND INTENDS TO SEEK OUT DEA/SANTIAGO SAIC FRANGULLIE, NOW ON HOME LEAVE IN US, TO CONFRONT HIM OVER MATTER. HE IS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT SAFETY OF HIS FAMILY DURING HIS ABSENCE FROM CHILE. HE SAID THAT HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COOPERATE FURTHER WITH USG ON NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT MATTERS "IF THIS IS OUTCOME."

6. COMMENT: MONTERO IS PERHAPS SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT OFFICIAL IN GOC IN TERMS OF ACTUAL OPERATION OF OUR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM. IT WAS ONLY THROUGH HIS EFFORTS THAT WE OBTAINED EXPULSION OF 20 MAJOR TRAFFICKERS, AND WITHDRAWAL OF HIS GOODWILL WOULD BE MAJOR BLOW. EVEN IF NO FURTHER EFFORTS ARE MADE BY USG TO RETURN TRAFFICKERS TO CHILE, PROBLEM OF ALLEGED DEATH THREAT AGAINST MONTERO WILL REMAIN. WE EXPECT MONTERO WILL COOL OFF SOMEWHAT, BUT THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE EFFECT UPON ANY FUTURE REQUESTS TO EXPULSION OF

CHILEAN VIOLATORS, REGARDLESS OF OUR FUTURE HANDLING OF PROBLEM.

7. MONTERO'S REACTION STRENGTHENS EMBASSY BELIEF (REFTEL) THAT THERE IS LITTLE PROSPECT GOC WOULD AGREE TO RECEIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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RELEASED TRAFFICKERS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO PRESS GOC ON THIS POINT.  
POPPER

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## Message Attributes

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